

Docket No. AUS920030936US1

CLAIMS:

1. A method in a data processing system for performing handwritten character recognition, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

responsive to user input to a pointing device entered through a computer interface, identifying a stroke start event and a stroke end event;

deriving a stroke parameter from the stroke start event and the stroke end event;

transmitting the stroke parameter to a server; and

receiving a candidate character from the server, wherein the candidate character is based on the stroke parameter.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the stroke start event is a depression of a pointing device button, and the stroke end event is a release of the pointing device button.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of identifying includes:

determining a coordinate of a pointing device icon upon identification of the stroke start event, and determining a coordinate of the pointing device icon upon identification of the stroke end event.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the deriving step includes:

Docket No. AUS920030936US1

calculating a plurality of stroke parameters from the stroke start event and the stroke end event.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the deriving step includes:

calculating at least one of a stroke length, stroke angle, and a stroke center for the stroke parameter.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising: downloading a web page from the server.

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising: receiving a match confirmation input indicating the candidate character corresponds to a character being input to the computer interface; and

communicating the match confirmation input to the server.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising: responsive to determining the candidate character, transmitting the candidate character to the first computer.

9. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for performing handwriting recognition comprising:

first instructions for displaying a collection area in a computer interface and adapted to determine a start point and an end point of a stroke input into the collection area, the first instructions, responsive to determination of the start point and the end point,

Docket No. AUS920030936US1

calculating a stroke parameter set describing attributes of the stroke;

a reference character dictionary including a plurality of records each defining a respective reference character; and

second instructions, responsive to a comparison of the stroke parameter set with the plurality of records, for identifying at least one reference character as a candidate character.

10. The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the computer interface includes a candidate display for displaying the candidate character identified by the second instructions.

11. The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the candidate character displayed in the candidate display is selectable by the user, the first instructions communicating selection of the candidate character to the second instructions.

12. The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the stroke parameter set includes a length parameter, an angle parameter and a center parameter.

13. The computer program product according to claim 12, wherein each of the plurality of records include at least one reference parameter set having a length parameter, an angle parameter, and a center parameter, the comparison includes comparing the length, angle, and center

Docket No. AUS920030936US1

parameters of the stroke parameter set with the length, angle, and center parameters, respectively, of the plurality of records.

14. The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the first instructions, responsive to a change in trajectory of the stroke input into the collection area of at least a trajectory threshold, determine a partition point, a first stroke parameter set calculated from the start point and the partition point and a second stroke parameter set calculated from the partition point and the end point.

15. The computer program product according to claim 14, wherein identification of the at least one candidate character is made by comparison of the first stroke parameter set and the second stroke parameter set with the plurality of records.

16. A data processing system comprising:
a pointing device;
a display;
a memory that contains a set of instructions; and
a processing unit, responsive to execution of the set of instructions, for providing a computer interface that identifies a start point and an end point of a handwritten character stroke input to the pointing device, a first stroke parameter set calculated by the processing unit responsive to identification of the start point and the end point.

Docket No. AUS920030936US1

17. The data processing system of claim 16, further comprising a network adapter for connecting the data processing system to a network computer, the set of instructions communicated to the data processing system responsive to connection of the data processing system with the network computer.

18. The data processing system according to claim 16, wherein the first stroke parameter set includes a length parameter, an angle parameter, and a center parameter.

19. The data processing system according to claim 16, wherein the processing unit, responsive to a change in trajectory of the pointing device of at least a trajectory threshold, calculates a second stroke parameter set.

20. The data processing system according to claim 16, wherein the computer interface includes a candidate display for displaying a candidate character identified by comparison of the first stroke parameter set with a reference parameter set of a reference character dictionary.